

CENTRAL PACIFIC
CONFERENCE

NEWS

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SPECIAL ANNUAL REPORTS ISSUE

CENTRAL PACIFIC CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
SPRING ASSEMBLY - MAY 17-19, 1985 SALEM, OREGON

CONFERENCE MINISTER

The Reverend Donald J. Severson

The only appropriate note for the beginning of this annual report is one of thanks: Thanks-giving to God for: a life surrounded and supported by grace; friends and colleagues who celebrate, appreciate, share, and help; congregations that labor to keep the flame of faith burning brightly; signs of God's presence; causes for hope; and, most amazing of all, an ongoing sense of unity, trust, and joy in our shared ministry. For all these things, I thank God and God's people - you.

Our spirit has been tested this year, as well as encouraged. Conference finances are tighter than they have been for a long time, and 1985 will bring continued stringency. A number of our local churches experienced conflict and dissension, resulting, in several cases, in involuntary pastoral termination. Continued troubles in the economy and tensions in society contributed to the pain felt so deeply by many.

The difficult times mean that hopes as to what the conference can deliver continue to rise, even as our resources are stretched thin. It is well, then that our newly created Board of Directors is initiating a process of clarifying conference functions and identifying visions and directions.

John Naisbitt, in *Megatrends*, writes: "The question for the 1980's is 'what business are you in?'" The conference is in the business of fostering the health of local congregations. Congregations, as well, have to be clear about the business they are in. Part of the conference's role is to press for, and help to bring about, that clarity. As our proposed new statement of purpose says, another part of the conference's role is to provide that wider context within which the local finds its connections with the universal.

I write this in late March, fresh from a remarkable experience of continuing education at Vancouver School of Theology in which I observed some twenty Buddhist and Christian theologians in intense dialogue and encounter. One of them, Julie Ching, a Catholic from Toronto, remarked, in response to questions addressed to the Christians by Mokusen Miyuki, "Theology can never allow itself to be so preoccupied with the abstract that it fails to be responsive to the immediate human need." She stated, in my judgement, the most important issue before us. We must never become so distracted - by theology, finances, organizational planning, politics, or worship itself - that immediate human need is ignored. That need is, of course, both material and spiritual. I am convinced that God will bless the church that always keeps its business, theology, and its worship responsive to the pressing needs of people, all people, the whole household of God.

ASSOCIATE CONFERENCE MINISTER

The Reverend Eugene Ross

1984 has been a year of reflection and projection in the midst of the ongoing activities of the Conference: reflection on the shared mission of the Conference and projections of what faithfulness to that mission might mean in terms of future programming and commitment of limited mission dollars. I applaud the Board of Directors for calling upon all of the structures of the Conference to develop mission strategy statements and project future mission activities. This undertaking has been a productive undertaking for the Christian Nurture, Mission and Outreach and Camp Adams Administration Committees which I staff. It has led to a sort of "zero-based" program planning. Previous programs have been scrutinized to assess their ongoing value to the mission of the Conference in this period of time and into the future. The process has reaffirmed the value of continuing much programming already underway as well as suggesting new areas and areas to be emphasized. I want to share with you these areas of emphasis that are of particular concern to me.

Youth and Young Adult Ministries

Among the areas suggested for emphasis are youth and young adult ministries. At last year's Spring Assembly we voted to affirm the Youth and Young Adult Priority as a priority of the Conference. I am encouraged by the strategies being suggested by the Young Adult Task Force to help local churches develop active programs for young adults who are too often absent from the life of the local church. I am eagerly looking forward to next Fall's Assembly when we focus on youth and young adult ministries. I am hopeful that the Assembly will inspire congregations, youth and young adults to envision new avenues of ministry. We must ask what is happening and what will happen to the church if we fail at nurturing and sustaining youth and young adults in the church. Not only what will happen to the church, but what will happen to society?

Church Growth

The importance of church growth and new church development has been re-emphasized in the process of strategizing for mission. The importance of addressing this issue is demonstrated in what happened in CPC last year. Our Conference experienced a net loss of 377 members last year. At the same time churches were attracting 571 new members they were losing 948 - two-thirds of the loss occurring in that area known as "cleaning the rolls". Obviously if a church is to grow it must not only attract new members, it must also maintain the members it has. Future programming of the Conference must include help to local congregations to stem the outgoing tide of membership. I believe faithfulness to the Gospel calls for courageous response to current social ills and community needs but it also demands that we call others out of their isolation and despair into a community of relationships and hope. I hope our churches will continue to work at growth. I know the Mission and Outreach Committee is ready to be of assistance. Churches have been encouraged to be very intentional about setting yearly church growth goals. I hope more of our churches will do so and that those that are will continue.

Outdoor Ministry

Elsewhere in these reports you will find the Camp Adams Administration Committee report in which you will learn of the financial loss at the camp in 1984. The largest portion of that loss is represented by the lack of projected income from "outside" groups. CPC use of the camp - including Summer camps and individual church use - represented only 25% of the income of the camp. When the Administration Committee began their own long-range strategy development two years ago one of their primary concerns was increasing the use of the camp by our own constituency. In the past this Conference covenanted together to do outdoor ministry both in terms of maintaining a facility and providing staff and programming. It is clear that we have been able to maintain the covenant on facility only because of significant "outside" use. When that use diminished - as it did this year - we recognize how difficult it is to maintain the covenant on facility. I am also concerned about the covenant in terms of the use of the Summer camping program both at Pilgrim Cove and at Camp Adams also calls into question our commitment to the covenant to do outdoor ministry.

When financial resources are limited and mission opportunities are pressing in on us it is fair to question tying up limited resources in facilities and programming which don't appear to have the broad support of the churches. I affirm the great value of outdoor ministry. I believe it will be more and more important to the church in the future. I do not believe we will live out our commitment to youth and young adults if we can't offer a significant outdoor ministry to them. I know how faith commitment is deepened through outdoor ministry for persons of all ages and that this is a critical mission of the church and worthy of the investment of mission funds. But to what extent? We need to wrestle with this question. The Camping Task Forces, Camp Adams Administration Committee and the Pilgrim Cove Foundation Board are all concerned and are discussing this question. But it needs the discussion at the congregational level as well.

I want to close having lifted up just those three issues. There are others. The process we have engaged in will strengthen the mission of our Conference - of that I am sure. It is important to know how we can use our mission resources most wisely. I turn again and again to the lesson of Jesus recorded in Luke: "If one of you is planning to build a tower, he sits down first and figures out what it will cost, to see if he has enough money to finish the job. If he doesn't, he will not be able to finish the tower after laying the foundation; and all who see what happened will make fun of him."

REPORT OF THE MODERATOR

William Jackson, Moderator

This was an exciting, hard working year for your first Board of Directors under the new Conference By-Laws. We met four times; after last year's Spring Assembly in May, in July, September, and February. All members were faithful and hard working.

A good bit of time was spent on organizing and setting methods of operating. It is hoped that some procedures and systems have evolved that will stand some test of time, and will help the Conference as it goes about God's work in the future. Each director was assigned a liaison person to one of the Conference committees. This was to achieve the objective of the new by-laws for the Board to be independent and objective in its work and still be very responsible to and cooperative with the committees of the Conference. From the Board's point of view, this seems to be working well.

In July Don Severson gave us his report, "Visioning for the Future". It grew into a strategy development session at which assignments for eight strategy papers were given to the various committees of the conference.

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|---------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) Planned Giving | 5) Office Modernization |
| 2) Leadership Development: Clergy | 6) Church Development |
| 3) Leadership Development: Laity | 7) Camp Adams |
| 4) Mission Interpretation Through Trips and Tours | 8) Ministry of Communication using Modern Technologies |

These papers are mostly completed, and working goals will be forthcoming from them. To me, the most important potential goal is Evangelism and Church Growth from the Church Development paper. There are many many folk out there who don't know how very much they would gain and grow from membership in a United Church of Christ Church. We owe it to them to make our good news available to them. It is the means for us to do the many programs that need to be accomplished.

Two of the most exciting events of the year were the formation of and entry into the Conference of Ainsworth Church, and the Church Leaders Training Event held this late winter at Pacific University. The merger of St. Andrew's Community and Second, U.C.C. to form Ainsworth and make it a strong, meaningful church in Northeast Portland was truly a great event in the life of the Central Pacific Conference. Every person who attended the Church Leaders

Training Event sponsored by the Nominations and Leadership Committee came away with inspiration and practical knowledge to share back at their local church. It was a great step forward in leadership training.

The Fall Assembly passed the resolution to make the U.C.C. General Synod's Youth/Young Adult Priority a priority for the Conferences as well. Actions on this will be coming up soon.

Finances have not become easier. However, the accounting procedures now in place give the board very good, very current information, and we should be able to do a much better job of planning our financing from now on. Working a year ahead in budgeting, as we are now doing by presenting a 1986 budget at this Spring Assembly, is a step in the right direction.

It has been a challenging, new ground breaking year for the Conference, and for the new Board of Directors. All members have been most helpful and enthusiastic. The staff have been wonderful. We really have great leadership in Don Severson and Gene Ross. And Sue and Debbie in the office are devoted, cheerful, intelligent, and helpful and I have appreciated them. Personally, my life is pretty equally divided between my family, my job, and my church. Each is very important to me, and I thank the people of the Central Pacific Conference for allowing me to work in it and with them. It was good being Moderator. I recommend it.

1984 BASIC SUPPORT RECEIPTS

IDAHO

RECEIVED

American Falls	\$1,802
Boise, First	8,501
Boise, Wright	6,300
Challis	---
Idaho Falls	999
McCall	400
Mountain Home	6,120
Nampa	3,742
New Plymouth	2,640
Payette	400
Pocatello	3,000
Rockland	100

OREGON & WASHINGTON

Albany	1,767
Ashland	1,200
Astoria	100
Beavercreek	1,750
Beaverton	9,900
Cascade Locks	207
Clackamas	1,382
Condon	3,200
Corvallis	11,200
Elliott Prairie	500
Enterprise	1,322
Eugene	19,337
Forest Grove	28,693
Gaston	1,000
Gresham, Zion	2,400
Hillsboro	2,500
Hood River	3,772
Hubbard	1,740

RECEIVED

Ione	\$3,900
Klamath Falls	1,248
Lake Oswego	2,000
Lincoln City	4,612
Medford	7,650
Milton-Freewater,	
Ingle Chapel	1,850
Milwaukie	2,507
Portland:	
Cedar Hills	7,141
Ebenezer	---
First	17,500
Highland	250
Hillsdale	6,330
Parkrose	8,500
St. Andrew's	2,750
Second	1,416
Southwest	200
Trinity	1,000
Waverly Heights	4,564
Salem, First	19,271
Salem, Knight Mem.	3,200
Scappoose	---
Smyrna	2,388
The Dalles	3,300
Tillamook	5,400
Wilsonville	3,607
Vancouver, Wa.	5,499
White Salmon, Wa.	650
Miscellaneous	382

TOTAL RECEIVED

\$243,089

CENTRAL PACIFIC CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST 1984 FINANCIAL REPORT

<u>BUDGETED INCOME:</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>
Local Church Basic OCWM Support	\$242,819.63	\$252,000.00
Per Capita Support @ \$3.00 per member	32,203.50	33,000.00
Per Capita Support - voluntary	54.50	---
Trust Fund Interest	9,396.63	9,600.00
Friends of the Conference	1,795.74	2,700.00
Camp Adams - Booking and Bookkeeping	9,000.00	9,000.00
Miscellaneous	2,426.57	1,000.00
Interest on Short-Term Investments	98.36	300.00
TOTAL 1984 BUDGETED INCOME	\$297,794.93	\$307,600.00

<u>BUDGETED EXPENDITURES:</u>		
National OCWM	\$ 58,276.71	\$ 60,480.00
Conference Program Committees:		
Christian Nurture	14,427.92	16,600.00
Church and Ministry	18,645.51	22,650.00
Mission and Outreach	18,619.94	20,600.00
Financial Management	491.71	1,200.00
Information & Interpretation	3,563.48	5,710.00
Ministers	85,634.16	85,470.00
Conference Office	72,083.09	70,249.00
Other Conference Expenses	26,278.74	24,540.00
TOTAL 1984 BUDGETED EXPENDITURES.....	\$298,021.26	\$307,499.00

CAMP ADAMS OPERATION 1984 FINANCIAL REPORT

<u>BUDGETED INCOME:</u>		
Outdoor Schools	\$ 35,837.89	\$ 43,300.00
UCC Summer Camps	20,240.70	26,560.00
UCC Use	11,522.80	10,500.00
All Other Uses	62,899.66	91,900.00
Other Income	6,887.28	---
TOTAL 1984 BUDGETED INCOME.....	\$137,388.33	\$172,260.00

<u>BUDGETED EXPENDITURES:</u>		
Management	\$ 34,753.84	\$ 38,910.00
Other Staff	39,307.67	37,835.00
Taxes & Insurance	14,359.06	15,225.00
Materials, Supplies, Utilities	64,710.40	72,750.00
Other Expenses	5,320.97	11,333.00
TOTAL 1984 BUDGETED EXPENDITURES.....	\$147,810.00	\$176,053.00

Conference budget and financial report available to Members of the Conference upon request to the Conference Office.

CHURCH AND MINISTRY

The Reverend Robert Thoma, Chairperson

At this writing (March of '85) and since the 1984 Spring Assembly Meeting the committee has:

- 1) Interviewed and held Ecclesiastical Councils for Larry Etter and Jim Reid. Mr. Etter was ordained in June and Mr. Reid is scheduled to be ordained March 17.
- 2) Granted license to six persons
- 3) Received transfer of standing for three persons
- 4) Conducted two Installation Services
- 5) Re-newed Privilege of Call for one person
- 6) Re-newed In-Care status for seven students and received two new students In-Care.
- 7) Approved financial grants to five In-Care students
- 8) Up-dated clergy compensation guidelines that will be recommended to the Assembly for adoption.
- 9) Is planning and sponsoring the April 1985 Annual Clergy Retreat.
- 10) Granted Leave of Absence to five clergy at their request.
- 11) Continued to review standings of ordained and licensed ministers for the purpose of accurate records.
- 12) Amended the Manual on Ministry by:
 - a. changing the requirement for a quorum at an Ecclesiastical Council to "as many as are present"
 - b. deleting the section on "Commissioned Ministers"
 - c. defining the status of "Leave of Absence" as being "understood not as termination of Ordained Ministerial Standing, but as a time of absence from the full and active exercise of such standing". To further clarify the status of Leave of Absence it was established as a separate section in the Manual and was removed from the section entitled "Termination of Standing".

In addition to the type of routine responsibilities suggested in the paragraph above the committee plans in the year ahead to complete development of a long range program for continuing education for clergy. The status of "Commissioned Ministers" is not a burning issue in the Central Pacific Conference, but the committee feels it needs further thought and consideration.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Sylvia Love, Chairperson

The Personnel Committee during this past year has consisted of elected members: Jim Nolan (Boise Wright), Gail Bridenbecker (Vancouver), Lafe Harter (Corvallis), Edith Sherman (Parkrose), Charles Bowe (Hood River), Marvin Clark (Boise First), and Nancy Delbrueck (Lake Oswego) serves as liaison with the Board of Directors.

During the year we have conducted our regular interviews with all Conference staff, reviewing their performance, hearing suggestions and reviewing staffing needs. On the basis of these reviews we have made salary recommendations to the Financial Management Committee.

A committee was appointed to survey the office physical plan and the clerical staffing function. On the basis of their findings we are making suggestions for the office layout, office equipment and clerical staff assignments. We believe that with these changes and additions the office should operate more efficiently and with two clerical staff rather than two and a half.

Recommendations of the committee pertaining to working changes in the personnel policies were sent to the Board of Directors. The changes will bring our policies into conformity with the new Conference structure.

The Committee feels that it speaks for the members of the Conference in expressing gratitude for the dedicated and devoted efforts of those who serve us in the Conference office. I also want to thank the members of the committee for their contributions during the past year.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

The Reverend Greg Turner, Chairperson

he charge to the Financial Management Committee includes:

- 2) Stewardship Education and Promotion: to encouragement giving by the local churches of the Conference to Our Church's Wider Mission, per capita support, the hoped-for Conference Offering, Planned Giving and other tools related to the stewardship of money.
- 3) Budgeting: to build from various requests and monitor the income and expenditures of the Conference budget...all on a timeline which looks to both current and future budgets.
- 4) Property and Investment: to oversee policies and procedures having to do with
 - the Conference share of Interchurch Center offices and machines,
 - the Camp Adams Administrative Committee and support of the camp and
 - the various bequests, memorials, trusts, etc. which have or may come to the Conference and which require investment for present or future use.

he Financial Management Committee meets periodically to address these concerns, and its decisions regarding financial policy and official budget determination are subject to adjustment and approval by the Board of Directors and, in our Annual Meeting, by the delegates from the congregations. Our ministry of support is made easier, even -- at times -- jovial by a strong, knowledgeable membership of Joy Miller from Meridian UCC, Loren Waltz of Forest Grove, Ol Carlquist from Medford, Edith Sherman from Arkrose, Dawn Dressler from Portland First, Hugh Ruby from Milton-Freewater (on the mend from attacks on his big heart), Mike Wells from Bethel Beaverton, Gerald Bertsch of Cedar Hills, Jim Crolley from Ainsworth, Sally Henderson from Mt. Home and Ken Farnsworth from Boise Wright. Assignments are accepted willingly and executed with speed and competence.

The summer and fall find us preoccupied with recruiting for and conducting the Annual Stewardship Education Cluster Meetings held at seven locations around the Conference area in early September. These gatherings aim at bringing key congregational leaders together each year in order to hear congregational needs and

ideas, offer Conference assistance, show the work and requirements of the wider ministry and strengthen the local churches' ability to increase support for its own and our common mission, and secure personal pledges from the key leaders for the next year's OCWM.

We are happy to report that in the first three years of the Fall Cluster events about sixty percent of our congregations are participating, with reports from them of much new knowledge shared and support-approaches generated. We need ALL churches to play their part.

I should report that a substantial deficit in the Camp Adams budget last year has forced the using of fairly meagre invested monies to cover the imbalance. Camp Adams has had and continues to have one of the strongest financial situations of any church camp we know, and steps have already been taken to insure this unusual deficit does not reoccur. Those plans for the long run will rest on our use of the facility and a more "personal" interest among our churches in the camp and its upkeep. Find out how you can help.

The camp aside, our "jovial" committee has needed its sense of humor of late, as OCWM receipts from all of us "back home" have not been sufficient to avoid freezes for our program committees and a substantial cutback in what we first projected as our 1985 budget. Budgeting work goes on all the time, with our heavy periods in the winter as results come in on what we can expect. "Budgeting" is easy; the level of stewardship commitment is what makes it easy-happy or easy-sad. We invite, encourage, hope for! your detailed investigation of the current and projected budgets to see what we are trying to do. Your suggestions and participation are eagerly solicited. For we have reached a plateau in giving which will force some very painful decisions soon unless we can jump higher. Our Goal for OCWM basic support is to bring every congregation up the Conference average of \$22 per person -- a most modest hope: one visit to the local Sizzler for my family of four.

Because of our shortfall here, the goal of sending 25% of OCWM basic support funds on for the national and world mission of the church could not be achieved, even with severe chopping of the Conference needs. The proportion, always relatively low due to our big geography/few parishes situation, should be higher. It will be when we catch the vision of our shared mission, joining our commitments to it at a level

more challenging than a night out at an inexpensive steakhouse. The ministry in which each of us participates in every corner of the world from Tigard in Oregon to Tigre in Ethiopia is a great one, not to be equalled at any other point in the lives of most of us. Can we learn of it, support it and urge every member of our churches to do the same?

PROGRAM AND ARRANGEMENTS

Kit Purdom, Chairperson

The members of the Program and Arrangements committee, presented to the Board of Directors for endorsement, the programs for two assembly meetings.

The fall assembly meeting centered on the Church's Mission in Central America. Pat Rumer, secretary for Central America for the Board for World Ministries, was the keynote speaker at the meeting at Plymouth Church, New Plymouth, Idaho, October 19 through 21.

The spring assembly meeting theme will be The Household of God. Keynote speakers will be the Rev. Mineo Katagiri, Conference Minister Emeritus of the Northern California Conference of the UCC, and the Rev. Louis Wargo, Minister of Westminster Congregational UCC, Spokane, WA.

The committee met five times. Four of these meetings were at the Conference office in Portland and involved telephone communication with members in Ashland, Boise and The Dalles.

Two members of the Conference Board of Directors, the Rev. Karl Vercooteren of The Dalles and Cathy Johnson of Silverton, met with members. Two members resigned, the Rev. Norm Broadbent of Ashland and Carolyn Warner of Boise.

The work of this committee is reflected in the quality of the programs at the assembly meetings. However, much credit must go to Gene Ross and Don Severson who alternate in working with the committee for spring and autumn assemblies and to the people of the host churches who have not only welcomed the delegates, but have worked so hard and so well to create the smoothness, the warmth and friendliness and the excitement we have experienced at these meetings. A big "thank you" also goes to the Conference staff for all the work they have done.

Regional Seminary Support

The Reverend Sallirae Henderson

In February I attended meetings in Berkeley as our conference's new appointee to the Pacific School of Religion Covenant Committee. My predecessor, Karl Vercooteren has laid the groundwork for our support of the seminary, informing and apprising us of our covenant of support with P.S.R. The goal set by the 1975 General Synod and adopted in 1981 by the Central Pacific Conference is for local church support to be 2% of their operating budgets.

Latest figures show that the combined support of churches of the five Western Conferences is now up to a grand total of 1/8th of 1%!

Our Central Pacific Conference support is slowly growing: from \$4,809 in 1982-83, to \$5,759 in 1984. Amounts budgeted so far for 1985 total \$4,810 plus three special offerings scheduled by individual churches. We have grown from 20% participation by our local CPC churches to a projected 37% for 1985. Churches participating in 1985 are Ainsworth, Beavercreek, Bethel-Beaverton, Condon, Forest Grove, Gresham, Ione, Lake Oswego, Medford, Mountain Home, Portland-First, Hillsdale, Parkrose, Southwest, Waverly Heights, Salem-First, Hillsboro, The Dalles, Tillamook-St. John's and Wilsonville. Good work, and let's keep moving!

Meanwhile, Pacific School of Religion eagerly awaits the arrival this summer of C.S. Song, an internationally acclaimed theologian who will become a member of the permanent core faculty. Another faculty addition will be announced in May.

Plans are made and published for the summer session classes offered jointly with the Graduate Theological Union. Those brochures will be mailed to the local churches soon.

A Dean's Associate network has been initiated in each conference by P.S.R. This is a once or twice a year gathering by selected local clergy with a dean of the school. The purpose of the event is to serve as a two-way channel: for us to learn what P.S.R. is doing and for P.S.R. to hear our concerns and perspectives on theological education.

And so, consider our covenant. It is for our financial support to P.S.R. It also includes their training of leadership for our churches and educational opportunities for clergy and laity alike.

MISSION AND OUTREACH

The Rev. Walt McGettigan, Chairperson

The Mission and Outreach Committee in the past year has based its primary agenda upon the work of the previous years - and sought to implement the directives given the committee by the constitution of the Conference.

The major activities and programs have fallen into two recognized categories:

Support for churches.

During the past year through this committee you have undergirded two churches and been part of the Western Region Hispanic Project.

In the coming year we will continue supporting those churches in the Conference where vitality and whose very existence requires our continued support. We regret the necessity of cutting our support budget for in so doing we diminish our effectiveness where those churches carry on their vital and worthwhile ministry.

We participate - financially and by the participation of members - on various committees and programs in the Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon (and in 1984 - in Idaho)

The M & O Committee has been involved in several special projects - Peace Priority, SOAR, Hunger Action, OCIS Peace and Hunger Training Event. Our of our members participated in the Central America Sojourn.

One role the committee feels is that of evaluating requests to the national boards for financial support of special projects. The committee has reviewed and commented on several during the past year.

Another function is representing the Conference in seeing to impact problem areas by providing emergency support. Unfortunately the lack of funding dramatically curtails our effectiveness in this area of our activities. We have had to refuse support for several worthwhile activities that would have strengthened the mission and outreach of the churches of the conference.

Our budget for the coming year will place even more restrictions upon our ability to be the arm of the conference in its mission and outreach activities.

INFORMATION & INTERPRETATION

Ted Liljeholm, Chairperson

A major project this year was the creation of a Strategy Development Proposal at the request of the Board of Directors. This exercise was useful in refining the role of the new committee.

The committee has agreed to work within the following areas:

I. IDENTITY OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST AND CENTRAL PACIFIC CONFERENCE

This work is aimed at promotion of those identities, developing archives for the Conference, work done by a sub-committee. Celebrations at all levels of church life aid in this work. Initial work is now being done to develop a 150th anniversary celebration of the Spaulding and Whitman Missions.

II. COMMUNICATION

This committee oversees the Conference News, and is liaison with the new tabloid, the UNITED CHURCH NEWS, the national publication which will begin publication this spring. We also work as a resource for local church communicators and for other committees of the Conference, both in training and providing personnel.

III. MISSION INTERPRETATION

We maintain contact with the national instrumentalities, specifically the Office of Communication, the Stewardship Council, the Board for Homeland Ministries, and the Board for World Ministries. We are responsible for the itineration of approved mission interpreters. We are undertaking the development, coordination, and promotion of audio visual and print materials in the Conference office, and a Mission column for the Conference News.

IV. OTHER ACTIVITIES

We responded to the Nampa UCC resolution regarding the World Council of Churches and National Council of Churches.

We met with Charles Cooper, who is assigned to us as a part of his work with the Stewardship Council. He acquainted us with the Council's Mission Alive program.

As a part of our communication responsibilities, we produced a videotape used at the Fall stewardship workshops and Fall Assembly.

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST WOMEN

Dorothy Schlegel, President

One of the primary goals of the Women's Board is to reach women of the Conference through programming for education in the mission of the church, for spiritual growth, and for opportunities for service. We have offered to have a member of the Women's Board visit the women's group in each church in the Conference. Many have responded.

The Cluster meetings which are held in six different areas are the main contact with the local churches. This year we have tried to coordinate our programming with the total Conference themes. In the Fall, Joe Schmid, Van and Rose E. Rietmann traveled to each of the Clusters giving "A Look at Guatemala", a continuation of the Fall Assembly emphasis on Central America. Typewriters were gathered at the Clusters, then packed with childrens clothing to be taken to Guatemala - service in action.

Spring, 1985 Clusters will focus on our UCC Statement of Faith, and foster our spiritual growth. Rev. Richard Osburn will present Songs of Our Faith which will define our beliefs.

The Annual Meeting of UCC Women will be held Friday, May 17 at Knight Memorial Church in Salem. "Women in the Household of God" will be addressed by Rev. Donald Severson, Conference Minister. We will recognize Lay Women of the CPC who will be honored at General Synod this Summer. There will be ingathering of the Educational Loan/Grant Fund contributions. Installation of area representatives, secretary and treasurer will be held. It will be a time of celebration! Opening worship is scheduled for 9:45, luncheon at 12:30, and adjournment at 1:45. All are invited.

Last July, I had the opportunity to attend the 2nd National Meeting of UCC Women in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. It was an overwhelming experience of caring and sharing, learning and worshipping with women who were basically UCC, but also representative of every major denomination; and who were basically from the United States, but representative of countries throughout the world. It was an unforgettable time.

This past year we revised the By-Laws of the Women through input from every member of the Board, but facilitated by the extra time and Commitment of Katherine Lindstrom, Brenda Hobbs,

and Barbara Droz. We also reorganized the scholarship Loan Committee into the Educational Loan/Grant Fund and clarified the Policy Statement. Charlottie Havlicak, as chairperson, did an outstanding job. Special thanks go to Miriam Davis for her financial expertise in all areas of the Board's finances.

The members of the Women's Board come from all areas of the Conference and represent a wide variety of beliefs, and options. They have been committed, cooperative and supportive in this year of change - open to new ideas, and giving freely of their own ideas. It has been a joy to work with them. I give thanks to each one.

EVALUATION COMMITTEE

The Reverend Charles Hinkle, Chairperson

Since the 1984 Spring Assembly, the Evaluation Committee has considered two principal issues: the process for introducing and considering resolutions at the Assembly, and the revision of the Statement of Purpose in the Conference By-Laws.

There has been some continuing dissatisfaction with the resolution procedure in the Conference. The Committee recommended to the Board of Directors that a formal policy be adopted to require all resolutions to be in writing and to contain a statement of budgetary implications. The Committee also recommended that any resolution introduced at one session of the Assembly which does not require immediate action should be (for example, resolutions introduced at Spring Assembly should be voted upon at the following Fall Assembly).

The Committee also completed work on the revised Statement of Purpose for the Conference, which had been referred back to it after a considerable amount of floor discussion at the 1984 Spring Assembly. The Committee considered all of the changes proposed at the Assembly, and recommends adoption of the following revised text as an amendment to Article II, section 1 of the By-Laws:

"Purpose: The Conference exists to assist and encourage the local churches and their members in working together to explore, communicate, support, and pursue the mission of the church. It also provides a channel for effective relationships with the United Church of Christ and its instrumentalities, with other Christian communions, and with the broader community."

CHRISTIAN NURTURE

Jean Vercouteren, Chairperson

During the past year the Christian Nurture Committee has spent much time working on a mission statement and developing a strategy for accomplishing the mission. The mission statement which has been adopted states:

It shall be the mission of the Christian Nurture Committee to plan, promote, provide or otherwise facilitate programs and training events which enrich the Christian Nurture Ministries of the churches of the Central Pacific Conference.

Included among the strategies for accomplishing this mission are the following:

In the future the Christian Nurture Committee will observe the Youth and Young Adult Ministry as a priority of the Committee's work. To that end we establish the following short range goals:

1) Establish the Youth Ministry Associates program for adults working with youth.

2) Continue to sponsor and maintain camping ministries at Camp Adams and Pilgrim Cove.

3) Reaffirm the youth cluster structure.

4) Affirm a young adult structure which includes retreats, cluster events, caravans and newsletters.

In the future the Christian Nurture Committee will continue to affirm the Family Life Ministry. To that end we establish the following goals:

1) Encourage more participation in family camping.

2) Continue to develop marriage enrichment opportunities.

3) Develop resources and events which address the variety of family life concerns present in today's society.

In the future the Christian Nurture Committee will continue to provide continuing education for those working in the educational ministries of the church. To that end we establish the following goals:

- 1) Continue Christian Education Associates program.
- 2) Support the training of church school teacher through cluster enrichment events.
- 3) Revitalize the religious educator fellowship in Oregon and Idaho.
- 4) Provide for workshops and/or other gatherings to address other issues in the educational ministries of the church.

In the future the Christian Nurture Committee will reaffirm the process of assisting the laity in identifying and using their gifts for ministry. To that end we establish the following goals:

- 1) The Committee will support/promote adult camping experiences.
- 2) The Committee will provide events and resources for spiritual growth and Bible literacy.

I want to thank the other members of the Christian Nurture Committee for their hard work and for their commitment to the goals which we have set for ourselves.

NOMINATING AND LEADERSHIP

The Reverend Farley Maxwell, Chairperson

As we complete the first year under the new Conference constitution the nominating work of our committee has reached a new "normal". We are annually to propose a new slate of officers and one third of the Conference Board to be elected, and recommendations to the Board regarding the appointed committee vacancies. The large talent pool in our churches makes the work of the committee relatively easy. We seek not only to provide able people, but to make them broadly representative of the Conference churches as well.

In February a local church leaders training event was held at Pacific University. Special workshops for people in the various volunteer leadership posts were included in this six hour event. A videotape on the role of moderator in a local church was made. If this tape proves useful, others may follow. More than eighty people attended this first event. I wish to thank John Wordin, of Shelley, Idaho, and Susan Cutshall of Eugene for their work on this project.

In addition to John and Susan, I want to thank Doug Lindley, Dale Feik, Earnie Lidell, Anne Gordon, and Ed Johns for their work on the Nominating and Leadership Committee.

CAMP ADAMS ADMINISTRATION COM.

William Stafford, Chairperson

Following a number of years of incremental growth and financial stability, Camp Adams experienced a significant downturn in use and a resulting operational loss of \$23,000 in 1984. Because a cash reserve had been built up over the past several years the net red ink amounted to \$6,000 which has been covered by a loan from the Conference Investment funds. It has also been necessary to arrange a line of credit to enable the camp to operate in the early months of 1985 when camp use is down and income lags behind expenses.

In surveying the camp scene in Oregon the Northwest and other places in the county, the Administration Committee has learned that Camp Adams was not alone in its experience of loss. Fewer groups booked facilities in 1984 and those that did tended to be smaller in number and stayed for shorter periods of time. Whether 1984 represents the outset of a trend or was an anomaly is very difficult to determine at this point. Early reservations for the camp in 1985 indicate a stronger year than 1984.

The Committee, recognizing that 1984 cannot be repeated, has under review a number of cost-saving options including the following:

- 1) Close the camp during the low-usage months of December, January and February, thus reducing part of the staff overhead, the ever-spiraling utility costs and provide uninterrupted time for staff to complete maintenance projects.
- 2) Consolidate the food service at Nate Creek Lodge eliminating the need to staff the kitchen at Morris Lodge, again resulting in reduced staff overhead and reduced utility expense.
- 3) Explore ways of modifying cabins to conserve on energy.
- 4) Explore ways of adapting current cabins to provide for smaller, more private areas in order to attract user groups not currently using the camp.

The Committee has also appointed a marketing sub-committee to develop a marketing plan, such plan to reflect the Camp Adams Mission Statement reported to the Assembly previously. Let me refer you to the report of Gene Ross for his comments on our covenant to do outdoor ministry.

On a brighter note, let me share some of the progress which was made during the past year.

- 1) The Ropes Course, installed during the Spring, proved a very helpful addition to the resources available for our own summer camps and for other groups using the camp. In fact, several groups have been attracted to the camp because of this resource.
- 2) A new storage room was added to the Nate Creek Lodge.
- 3) Trees were thinned around the Nate Creek cabins to allow more sunlight to dry out the roofs providing for longer life for the shingles.
- 4) The parking area at Nate Creek was expanded both providing more parking space as well as enhancing safety during arrivals and departures.

I am very appreciative of the work of the other Committee members and of the Long-Range Planning Committee. The Committee is appreciative of the work of Harold Adkins and other members of the staff at the Camp. We have a good staff. Let me also thank those Friends of Camp Adams whose on-going commitment to the Camp provide funds for projects not covered in the budget.



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